

I N D E X

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Edith Shaffer
Minute Secretary

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Council Minutes
November 21, 1961

Torrance, California
November 21, 1961

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a regular meeting at 5:30 P.M., Tuesday, November 21, 1961, at the Council Chamber of City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL:

Those responding to roll call by Deputy City Clerk Bramhall were: **COUNCILMEN:** Beasley, Benstead, Bradford, Blount, Draie, Vico, and Mayor Isen. **ABSENT:** None. City Manager Peebles and City Attorney Remelmeyer were also present.

3. FLAG SALUTE:

At the request of Mayor Isen, Mrs. Margaret Clark led the salute to our flag.

4. INVOCATION:

The Reverend H. Milton Sippel of First Christian Church opened the meeting with an invocation.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

On motion of Councilman Benstead, seconded by Councilman Draie, the minutes of the two meetings held November 7 and November 14, 1961, were approved as written, there being no objections.

6. APPROVAL OF DEMANDS:

Councilman Benstead moved all bills properly audited be paid. Motion, seconded by Councilman Vico, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

7. MOTION TO WAIVE FURTHER READING:

Councilman Benstead moved that after the Clerk has given a number and read the title to any resolution or ordinance on tonight's agenda, the further reading thereof be waived; reserving and guaranteeing to each councilman the right to demand the reading of any such resolution or ordinance in regular order. The motion was seconded by Mayor Isen and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

PLANNING MATTERS:

8. Recommendation of Planning Commission to approve waivers:

W-243, George L. Lewison, 428 Via los Miradores, waiver of rear yard setback requirement, and

W-246, R. C. Wheeler, 4913 Calle de Arboles, request for waiver of two feet to construct 8 foot fence along rear property line.

It was noted no correspondence had been received on either request and Councilman Draie moved to concur in the recommendation of the Planning Commission to approve the two waivers above described. Motion, seconded by Councilman Vico, carried, there being no objection.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

9. Torrance Chamber of Commerce, requesting that the City furnish bus transportation for the float decorators for the Torrance entry to the Pasadena Tournament of Roses; and a waiver of the license fee for selling of roses on December 2 to raise funds for the float. Attached was a proclamation of December 2nd as TORRANCE TOURNAMENT OF ROSES DAY.

Mayor Isen proclaimed December 2, 1961, TORRANCE TOURNAMENT OF ROSES DAY and, adding the word "free" in Item 1 of the memorandum of the City Manager, the Council on motion of Councilman Beasley, seconded by Councilman Drale, authorized free bus transportation for the workers on the float and waiver of the license fee required for volunteers to sell roses on December 2nd. The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

10. Petition bearing signatures of 122 Dominguez Water Corporation consumers, requesting water service by the City, submitted by A. E. McVicar, Water Superintendent, with his comments.

Mayor Isen requested that City Manager Peebles mail a copy of the memorandum prepared by Water Superintendent McVicar explaining the unfeasibility of the request made in the petition, to the man who represented the petitioners, Mr. J. A. Coleman. The petition was ordered filed.

City Attorney Remelmeyer orally explained some of the legal ramifications of this matter and Mayor Isen asked that he prepare a written statement of the City's position to be discussed by the Council and, if approved, mailed to the parties involved.

11. The Transit authority of the City of Sacramento transmitting copies of newly passed Senate Bill No. 1531 requiring right outside rear view mirrors on all coaches and movable eye shades, and Assembly Bill No. 2280, which permits school districts to collect a portion of the cost of school transportation furnished by contract with municipal transit systems, with the recommendation of City Manager Peebles thereon.

Councilman Beasley moved to concur in the recommendation to protest to the State Legislature to repeal the bills. Councilman Drale seconded the motion but asked that the protest be in the form of a resolution and, there being no objection, Mayor Isen instructed the City Attorney to prepare a resolution and also to make an explanation in writing of the effect of Assembly Bill No. 2280.

12. Burton W. Chace, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, dated November 17, 1961, on the subject of fallout shelters.

Councilman Blount moved to file Mr. Chace's letter. The motion was seconded by Councilman Bradford. The Councilmen agreed that the answers to the questions propounded in the letter need to be supplied and Councilman Drale said he believes the City of Torrance should participate in any meeting called to determine what the cities want to do about fallout shelters and the proposed program. Mayor Isen asked that City Manager Peebles reply to the letter in line with the thoughts expressed by the Council; in effect, that until there is some certainty about the questions posed, the City of Torrance does not favor this large expenditure.

Assistant City Manager Bramhall said he had attended one meeting with the Board of Supervisors and a report thereon will be on next week's Council meeting agenda.

13. Garden Valley Association for Mentally Retarded Children, by Stanley LeBon requesting permit to sell toys displayed in homes of residents in the area between now and Christmas.

Councilman Drale moved the request be granted providing there is a clearance through the Police Department and the License Department. Mr. LeBon was present and explained the method by which the toys will be sold; there will be no door to door selling. The toys have been donated by Eldon Toy Company and will be sold for the benefit of Garden Valley Association for Mentally Retarded Children through display in the homes of members who reside in Torrance. There will be no newspaper advertising and no signs.

Mayor Isen moved that a temporary free license be authorized to accomplish the purpose Mr. LeBon outlined, providing there be no door to door solicitation. The motion was seconded by Councilman Blount.

License Inspector Whitacre reported he had talked with a representative of the association and stated an application should be completed. Councilman Drale moved to include the stipulation in the above motion, as well as clearance through the Police Department and Councilman Vico seconded his motion. The motion of Mayor Isen, as amended by Councilman Drale, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

14. Lee Schlens, Superintendent of Building Inspection, submitting recommendation of Chemical Board with reference to proposed facility for Ordnance Associates of South Pasadena, to be constructed near Lomita Boulevard.

Building Superintendent Schlens explained in detail the proposed operation which is here submitted for approval and stated there will be another Chemical Board meeting before the company builds the vault and other facilities. The operation is akin to that of Hi-Shear Rivet Company which was approved by the Council some months ago. Councilman Blount moved to approve the plans up to this date and Councilman Drale seconded the motion. Roll call vote was as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Blount, Bradford, Drale, Vico,
Mayor Isen.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead.

15. COMMUNICATIONS FROM ENGINEERING DIVISION:

Hawthorne Avenue Sewer Assessment District No. 2. (1911 Act) No. A'11-61-4. Preliminary report of City Engineer Nollac, concurred in by City Manager Peebles. Attached, location sketch and copy of letter dated July 11, 1961 from the Los Angeles County Health Department.

A. Resolution finding and determining that a sanitary sewer system in Hawthorne Avenue Sewer District No. 2 is necessary as a health measure.

B. Resolution instructing the City Engineer to prepare plans and specifications and estimates for same.

Councilman Benstead moved that the following letter dated July 11, 1961 be accepted and spread in full in the minutes of this meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Drale and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
Health Department
241 North Figueroa Street
Los Angeles 12, California

July 11, 1961

Honorable City Council
City of Torrance
3031 Torrance Blvd.
Torrance, Calif.

Attention: Mr. W. M. Nollac, City Engineer

Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: Hawthorne Avenue Sewer Assessment District No. 2
City of Torrance.

RECOMMENDATION: It is respectfully recommended that sanitary
sewers be installed in this district.

ANALYSIS: This Department has made an investigation of the
Hawthorne Avenue Sewer Assessment District No. 2,
City of Torrance. During the course of this investigation, seven
(7) property owners or tenants were actually contacted. Of this
number, five (5) or 71% reported having experienced trouble with
their individual subsurface sewage disposal systems. They com-
plained of the seepage pits filling up causing raw sewage to back
up into the house plumbing fixtures or to overflow onto the ground
surface; also that frequent pumping and cleaning out of the seepage
pits or the construction of new pits was necessary.

The soil within the area of this proposed sanitary sewer district
consists mostly of clay and fine beach sand. This type of soil
does not provide good leaching action for any type of individual
subsurface sewage disposal system.

In view of our survey, I, the undersigned Health Officer of the
County of Los Angeles, having been officially designated by the
City Council of the City of Torrance to perform public health ser-
vices for the City of Torrance, do hereby recommend that proceedings
be instituted at once for the installation of sanitary sewers in
this district as an emprovement necessary to the protection of
public health. This recommendation is made pursuant to the pro-
visions of Section 2808 of the Streets and Highways Code.

Very truly yours,

KHS:GAH:LCH:mt
cc (3) City Engineer
Dr. Sutherland
Dr. Burski-
Monrovia H.C.

/s/ Gerald A. Heidbreder
GERALD A. HEIDBREDER, M.D., MPH
Chief Deputy Health Officer

For and in the absence of
K. H. Sutherland, M.C.,
Health Officer

At the request of Mayor Isen, Deputy City Clerk Bramhall
assigned a number and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 61-208

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, FINDING AND DETERMINING THAT A SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM IN HAWTHORNE AVENUE SEWER DISTRICT NO. 2, IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE IS NECESSARY AS A HEALTH MEASURE.

Councilman Bradford moved to waive further reading of Resolution No. 61-208. Motion, seconded by Councilman Vico, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Councilman Drale moved to adopt Resolution No. 61-208. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

At the request of Mayor Isen, Deputy City Clerk Bramhall assigned a number and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 61-209

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, INSTRUCTING THE CITY ENGINEER TO PREPARE PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS AND ESTIMATES FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM IN THE HAWTHORNE AVENUE SEWER DISTRICT NO. 2, PURSUANT TO THE IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1911, DIVISION 7 OF THE STREETS AND HIGHWAYS CODE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

Councilman Benstead moved to waive further reading of Resolution No. 61-209. Motion seconded by Councilman Beasley, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Councilman Benstead moved to adopt Resolution No. 61-209. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

16. Annexation of portions of Rolling Hills Plaza Shopping Center and Skyline Mobile Homes Park into Consolidated Sewer Maintenance District. City Engineer Nollac's letter dated November 16, 1961, submitting Resolution giving consent and granting jurisdiction to the County of Los Angeles for this purpose, as requested by the Los Angeles County Department of County Engineer, Sanitation Division in letter of November 8, 1961, with map for Council use.

On motion of Councilman Drale, seconded by Mayor Isen, the Council approved granting the consent and jurisdiction as requested.

At the request of Mayor Isen, Deputy City Clerk Bramhall assigned a number and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 61-210

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE GIVING CONSENT AND GRANTING JURISDICTION TO THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES FOR THE INCLUSION OF A PORTION OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE WITHIN THE CONSOLIDATED SEWER MAINTENANCE DISTRICT.

Councilman Benstead moved to adopt Resolution No. 61-210. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

17. Request of Torrance Unified School District for permission to concrete certain parkway areas, etc., with letter dated November 16, 1961, from City Engineer Nollac, recommending granting, with concurrence of City Manager Peebles.

Councilman Blount moved to grant the request of Torrance Unified School District for permission to install concrete sidewalk in parkway areas in front of several school sites under no fee permit, as recommended by the City Engineer and City Manager.

The motion was seconded by Councilman Drale and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

18. Tract No. 25311 - Release of Subdivision bond - R. A. Watt subdivider. Recommendation dated November 15, 1961, from City Engineer Nollac for release of Subdivision Bond No. 21291 in the amount of \$58,100 covering this tract, with concurrence of City Manager and memorandum from Park Superintendent and location sketch.

19. Street Easement deeds for acceptance by City Council. City Engineer Nollac's transmittal of seven easement deeds for street purposes with approval of City Attorney Remelmeyer and City Manager Peebles attached.

Councilman Blount moved to release the subdivision bond set forth in Item 18 and accept the street easement deeds listed as Item 19. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

The deeds are listed as:

1. Dated May 8, 1961 for the widening of 235th Street over portions of Lots 39 and 40, Tract No. 588, given by John L. and Rose A. Winters.
2. Dated April 24, 1961 for the widening of 235th Street over a portion of Lot 39, Tract No. 588, given by Ronald A. and Barbara C. Collins.
3. Dated October 3, 1961 for the widening of 235th Street over a portion of Lot 39, Tract No. 588 given by Clifford E. Easley.
4. Dated October 31, 1961 for the widening of 229th Street and 229th Place over a portion of Lot 57, Tract No. 639, given by John E. and Dolores T. Mollie.
5. Dated November 1, 1961 for the widening of 182nd Street and to provide a corner radius at the Northeasterly corner of 182nd Street and Bailey Drive over a portion of Lot 30, Resurvey of the R. O. Hickman Tract given by Ventura Rodriguez.
6. Dated October 29, 1961 for the widening of Del Amo Boulevard over a portion of Lot 16, Tract No. 8857, Given by Lorenzo and Elvira Chaves and Antonio and Anita Martinez.
7. Dated November 7, 1961 to provide a corner radius at the southwesterly corner of Cabrillo Avenue and Santa Fe Avenue over a portion of Lot 1, Block 297, Tract No. 1952, given by Max N. and Ardyth E. Lanier.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM TRAFFIC AND LIGHTING DIVISION:

20.

Report requested by Council concerning traffic problems on Carson Street east of Crenshaw Boulevard.

This is the report requested by Councilman Bradford on Carson Street between Crenshaw and Plaza del Amo essentially, and the Councilman discussed it at some length. Traffic Engineer Whitmer explained his report and the difficulty of getting onto Carson from the streets mentioned. Councilman Drale asked about the 10 foot easement which was to have been granted along this route and Councilman Beasley stated it has been obtained. Councilman Drale did not feel the elimination of parking would solve this problem and Councilman Bradford expressed the fear of a fatal accident because of the blind condition caused by parking in this area. Councilman Benstead contended parking did not hinder the visibility.

Councilman Drale moved to have the City Manager and Traffic Engineer make a further study and report in conjunction with the Traffic Committee. Councilman Bradford said the traffic caused by delivering children to the Catholic School is prohibitive and suggested the children be unloaded on the school side of Acacia and the curb painted as a loading zone. No action was taken; there will be a further report.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM AIRPORT COMMISSION:

21. Joe M. Doss, President Airport Commission, submitting recommendation of approval of Pacific Telephone Company's request for certain easements on the Airport.

22. Joe M. Doss, President Airport Commission, submitting recommendation that no action be taken on Edison Company's request for modification to Grant of Easement.

Councilman Blount moved to concur in the recommendations set forth for Items 21 and 22 respectively: That the Pacific Telephone Company request for certain easements on the airport; and that no action be taken on the request of Edison Company for modification to Grant of Easement. The motion was seconded by Councilman Bradford. It was noted that Item 22 will be further considered by the Airport Committee. There was no objection and it was so ordered.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION:

23. H. Milton Sippel, Chairman, submitting recommendation re the development of Victor Park and termination of lease between Southwood Little League and City of Torrance.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur in the recommendation set forth by the Park and Recreation Commission to terminate the lease with Southwood Little League and permit the league to erect their diamonds at Entradero Sump. The motion was seconded by Mayor Isen and discussion followed.

Councilman Blount clarified the motion as being that the Southwood Little League be given notice that Victor Park will be developed so their lease would be terminated and that permission be granted them to move their equipment and construct diamonds at Entradero Sump.

City Manager Peebles said a request has been made by the people using Entradero Sump for a little league, asking that their facilities be expanded to put in additional diamonds. He was fearful that the space would be limited. Councilman Drale questioned that the

City is ready to develop Victor Park, but Mayor Isen and City Manager Peebles said the money is available for grassing and putting in a sprinkler system this year.

Councilman Bradford moved a substitute that the matter be referred back to the City Manager and Director of Finance for a full report next week of the money to be expended at Victor Park this year and the priorities which have been established. Reverend Sippel said \$36,000 was appropriated for development of Victor Park. Mayor Isen seconded the motion of Councilman Bradford. Councilman Beasley reported tentative negotiations for other sites for Little League activities. There was no objection and the matter is now in the hands of the City Manager and Director of Finance for further report.

24. H. Milton Sippel, submitting recommendation on use of Civic Center for Little League.

Originally, Councilman Vico requested permission be given for Little League to use a portion of the Civic Center.

Mayor Isen asked that City Manager Peebles study the Master Plan and report to the Council, with an attached sketch. Councilman Vico asked that City Manager Peebles find out the status of the Ocean Avenue sump with respect to such use.

25. H. Milton Sippel, submitting revised proposed Ordinance regulating Torrance Beach.

City Manager Peebles suggested substitution of the words "State Director of Small Craft Harbors" in lieu of "director of Recreation" on page 1 of the last line of paragraph B, Section 32.5 of the proposed ordinance.

Councilman Beasley moved to concur in the recommendation regarding proposed ordinance regulating Torrance Beach.

Mr. Raymond L. Winters of Palos Verdes Estates spoke on behalf of Peninsula Surfing Club, in the hope that an area could be set aside for exclusive use of surfers all day. The councilmen did not favor the request. Mayor Isen said it might be advisable for Mr. Winters to present his request in writing.

At the request of Mayor Isen, Deputy City Clerk Bramhall assigned a number and read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 1279

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REPEALING CHAPTER 32 OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954" AND SUBSTITUTING THEREFOR NEW PROVISIONS ENTITLED "OCEAN BEACHES".

Councilman Benstead moved to approve Ordinance No. 1279 with the change above noted, at its first reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried by the following roll call vote:

- AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Benstead, Blount, Drale, Mayor Isen
- NOES: COUNCILMEN: Bradford, Vico.

The motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY MANAGER:

26. Suggested policy for use of City cars.

This policy is to be held for two weeks for further study. There will also be considered at that time a suggestion to increase the mileage paid for use of cars.

27. Recommendation with reference to change of title of Personnel Assistant to Personnel Director.

The recommendation of City Manager Peebles includes a change in rate range from Range 59 to Range 63 for the Personnel Director.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur in the recommendation of the City Manager. Motion, seconded by Mayor Isen, carried by the following roll call vote:

- AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Benstead, Bradford, Mayor Isen.
- NOES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Drale, Vico.

28. Lease of land agreement from Santa Fe.

This is a lease for beautification, tree planting along the railroad right of way in the vicinity of the City yard and dump.

Councilman Drale moved to approve the agreement as recommended by City Manager Peebles and City Attorney Remelmeyer and authorize the Mayor to execute the agreement. The motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

29. Resubmittal of recommendation re bids for office furniture, with bid summary attached, as requested.

Chairs:	To Los Angeles Desk Company		
	7 side chairs for Police Dept	@ \$24.75	\$173.25
	2 steno chairs	@ 27.15	54.30
	Finance		
	Police		
	3 swivel chairs without arms	@ 47.44	142.32
	Building Dept		
	4 rotary arm chairs	@ 51.15	204.60
Desks:	To Los Angeles Desk Company		
	2 30 x 45" desks	@ 100.00	200.00
	Building Dept		
	1 30 x 54 desk, Fire Dept	@ 114.85	114.85
	10 30 x 60 desks	@ 127.65	1,276.50
	2 License - 5 Police		
	1 Street - 1 Park		
	1 Finance		
	2 auxiliary typewriter shelves and	@ 57.13	114.26
	inserts - License		
Files:	To Parrish Stationers		
	1 5-drawer legal w/lock - Police	@ 120.00	120.00
	6 4-drawer legal w/lock	@ 94.00	564.00
	2 Personnel - 2 Legal		
	2 Building		
	4 4-drawer legal without lock	@ 84.50	338.00
	4. Engineering		

Typewriters - To International Business Machines		
1 Electric 17" - Building Dept	@ 427.50	\$427.50
1 Electric 13" - Central Services	@ 400.50	400.50
1 Electric 17" - Fire Dept	@ 427.50	427.50
Paper Cutter: To Addressograph Multigraph		
1 Model 130 Multigraph paper cutter		698.60

Arm Chairs and Telephone Cabinet - Torrance Desk		
2 armchairs - Legal	@ 96.00	192.00
1 telephone cabinet - Legal	@ 72.00	72.00

(All exclusive of sales tax).

Mayor Isen asked that the award to the last company listed above, Torrance Desk, be considered separately.

Councilman Blount moved to concur in the recommendation of the City Manager to award the bids as listed. The motion was seconded by Councilman Benstead and carried by unanimous roll call vote, except with respect to Torrance Desk Company on which the vote was as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Benstead, Blount, Bradford, Drale, Vico.

ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEN: Mayor Isen.

30. Miscellaneous Recommendations:

- A.1. \$526.50 to Kopple Company for saddle for American Concrete Cylinder Pipe, including labor for installation and making 8 inch tap, a budget item for the Water Dept.
2. \$450 to State Education Agency for surplus property steam generator, funds available in City Yard budget.
3. \$350 to State Educational Agency for surplus property cargo truck, funds available in Garage budget.

Councilman Bradford moved to approve expenditures listed above as Items A. 1, 2, 3. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

FOR INFORMATION AND/OR ACTION:

31. Adams, Morgan, Latham, Kripp and Wright, by Chas. P. Morgan re roof canopy for proposed Recreation Building.

Councilman Beasley moved to file this communication as being informational. The motion was seconded by Councilman Bradford and it was so ordered.

32. Mayor Isen asked City Attorney Remelmeyer to orally report on the bids for construction of Carson Avenue through the Park. For information only, there was attached to the agenda Mr. Remelmeyer's memorandum addressed to the City Manager and City Engineer, dated November 16, 1961.

City Attorney Remelmeyer said he had filed a condemnation action to extend Carson Street through the Park. Remco is the principal defendant as holder of the reversionary interest as assignee of Dominguez Land Corporation. The City obtained an order of immediate possession, but had to wait 20 days pursuant to law. In the interim Remco filed a motion to dismiss and the hearing was set for November 21. It has been continued until

next week and may be held up for some time as the matter may be taken under advisement, or possibly appealed.

Councilman Drale recommended further negotiation with Mr. Findley. No action was indicated at this time.

ORDINANCES:

33. Second reading Ordinance No. 1277.

At the request of Mayor Isen, Deputy City Clerk Bramhall presented for its second and final reading, and read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 1277

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 1262 IN ITS ENTIRETY, WHICH ORDINANCE RECLASSIFIED THAT CERTAIN PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN PLANNING COMMISSION CASE NO. 711 (MARBLE ESTATE-DON WILSON PROPERTY) FROM M-2 to R-1, AND FROM M-2 TO C-1.

Councilman Benstead moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1277 at its second and final reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

34. At the request of Mayor Isen, Deputy City Clerk Bramhall presented for its second and final reading, and read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 1278

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REPEALING SECTIONS 31.61, 31.63 AND 31.64 OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954" RELATING TO SALES AND USE TAX, AND SUBSTITUTING NEW PROVISIONS THEREFOR.

Councilman Benstead moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1278 at its second and final reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

35. City Manager Peebles stated Mrs. Clara Connor, Postmistress of Torrance, has asked for permission to use the Council Chamber on November 29, 1961 for an instruction class for Christmas extra postal employees. Mayor Isen moved to permit this use. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

36. City Attorney Remelmeyer said he had been asked by the Council to bring in a report on ownership regarding the Arlington Avenue bridge occurrence. The County Counsel has researched the question and concluded that the County has no ownership or authority over the bridge; that such ownership and authority rests in the City of Torrance. The County doubts the propriety of its spending any money on the bridge and, if any fences are going to be constructed, it appears they will have to be constructed and paid for by the City of Torrance, or not at all for some time.

Mayor Isen believed the City's construction of such fences might be considered as an admission of liability or guilt on the part of the City. Although such evidence of corrective action is not admissible in court, City Attorney Remelmeyer said from a practical standpoint it would influence the jury and the effort thereof is difficult to erase.

Councilman Drale felt it would be possible to construct the chain link fence as a protective measure without assuming liability. Sixty feet of the bridge belongs to the City of Torrance but it is wider than sixty feet. The Flood Control District never granted an easement beyond the sixty feet; however, when the bridges were constructed the City entered into an agreement whereby they paid a certain amount of money to the Flood Control District for the reconstruction and betterment. The contract provides that at the expiration of the construction period the bridges will revert to the City and the City would then be responsible for the operation and maintenance thereof. He questioned that the construction of a chain link fence would be considered operation and/or maintenance, although the County at this time believes it does.

Councilman Bradford considered the fence and the depth would constitute an attractive nuisance to children. That theory, City Attorney Remelmeyer said, is not ordinarily applicable to public property; he felt the doctrine of "sovereign immunity" would apply. Also, there is a two-year moratorium on certain types of suits against a city which might cover this situation.

Councilman Drale said inasmuch as the cost would be only about \$3500 to \$4000 he felt the City Manager should be authorized to see that the fences are constructed, and so moved. There followed a discussion of parents' obligation to keep their children under close surveillance, as well as the dimensions of the aperture through which the child crawled in order to fall.

There was no second to the motion of Councilman Drale.

37. Councilman Benstead mentioned the luncheon meetings which are being held by the Torrance Traffic Safety Council at local restaurants and asked if they are in violation of the Brown Act. City Atty Remelmeyer answered they would not be unless some action is taken at the meetings. Councilman Benstead could see no reason for meetings to be conducted in this way; any members of the public who wish to participate have to buy a luncheon at a particular restaurant in order to attend meetings which should be held in City Hall. Mayor Isen did not think the Brown Act would apply. The lunches are informational in nature as the regular meetings of the Traffic Safety Council are still held at regular times in City Hall. City Attorney Remelmeyer is to research the law and give a written opinion.

38. Mr. Vincent Van Wormer, 2119 169th Place, said he represents a group of citizens who would like to have an answer on what is going to be done about the Arlington bridge matter. Mayor Isen told him it had not been determined.

City Manager Peebles said according to the principal of the Lincoln School, the children are instructed to never chase a ball which goes over the fence into the channel. However, the danger lies with the younger children, evidently. Councilman Blount reminded the Council that although there are literally hundreds of bridges in residential sections, none are fenced, and it does not seem practicable to fence every bridge in the State of California. Mayor Isen said at this moment it could not be said what is the best thing to do and suggested that the people are demanding action of the City of Torrance because it is the closest place to approach for a solution. He asked that the people interested also be heard at a meeting of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors.

Questioning by Councilman Bradford developed that the railing is of tubular type and 42 inches high.

Mr. David Grovender (?) of 16922 Arlington Avenue, questioned that parents could "keep an eye" on children 100% of the time and mentioned the fences which have been placed around crosswalks over the freeways. Arlington at this point is used as a route to three grade schools.

City Attorney Remelmeyer, in answer to a question by Mayor Isen, said it might be possible to get a writing of some kind from the County giving permission to construct this chain link fence without admitting any liability, merely as a precautionary measure. Mayor Isen suggested the matter be held for another week for further study.

39. Councilman Bradford asked to be excused the first meeting in January as he will be with members of the Metropolitan Water District in Sacramento regarding California Water rights on the Colorado River. His request was granted.

40. Councilman Bradford asked about plans for the Youth Center and City Manager Peebles mentioned the report about the type of entrance on tonight's agenda. Mr. Charles Morgan of the architect firm was present and stated the working drawings will be complete in about three or four weeks.

41. Councilman Draie said a letter has been received from Mrs. Alice Johnson asking the City to participate in a resolution to the legislature to outlaw draw poker and lowball. He moved that the City go on record as supporting the program. Councilman Beasley seconded the motion. Councilman Vico thought horseracing should come in the same category, although he favors poker, slot machines, etc., such as used in Las Vegas. Roll call vote was:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Blount, Bradford, Draie,
Mayor Isen.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Vico.

42. Councilman Draie suggested 208th Street be called Torrance Boulevard near where it ties into the Harbor Freeway, through cooperation with the City of Los Angeles, and the County, and he so moved. The motion was seconded by Councilman Bradford and there was no objection.

43. Councilman Vico called attention to some land near Palos Verdes Drive which is supposed to be paved. City Manager Peebles stated it is from Calle Mayor down to Monte de Oro and there was a proposal from a man who wanted to do the planting but the cost was too great. It was set up in the capital outlay program and when a cut was made, it was removed. The Hollywood Riviera home owners are trying to accomplish a program of planting the area in return for the City putting in the necessary water lines. Such proposal, however, has not yet been received. None of the Del Amo Estates trees are left. City Manager Peebles said he would ask the Park Director for some ideas on what should be planted as well as a cost estimate on a proper water line and sprinkler system. He believes the figure will be around \$8,000.

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 P.M.

Edith Shaffer
Minute Secretary

13.

Council Minutes
November 21, 1961

APPROVED:

Albert Isen

Mayor of the City of Torrance

A. H. Bartlett
City Clerk of the City of Torrance
California